PLAIN ENGLISH

To his

EXCELLENCIE

THE

Lord General Monck,

And the OFFICERS of his ARMY:

OR, A *Word* in season, not onely to them, but to all Impartial Englishmen.

To which is added, A

DECLARATION

OF

PARLIAMENT

In the year 1647. setting forth the Grounds and Reasons, why they resolved to make no further Address or Application to the *King*.

Printed at *London*, in the Year 1660.

To his Excellency the Lord General Monck, *and the Officers of the Army under his Command.*

My Lord and Gentlemen,

IT is written, *The prudent ſhall keep ſilence in an evil time*; and 'tis like, we alſo might hold our peace, but that we fear a knife is at the very throat, not onely of our and your Liberties, but of our perſons too. In this condition, we hope it will be no offence, if we cry out to you for help; you that (through Gods goodneſs) have helped us ſo often, and ſtrenuouſly maintained the ſame Cauſe with us, againſt the return of that Family which pretends to the Government of theſe Nations. It is the publick intereſt and yours, that we hitherto fought for, and for which we now plead; therefore we inſiſt upon it with the greater confidence before you, becauſe we are all equally concerned in the good or ill of your tranſactions: We cannot yet be perſwaded, though our fears and jealouſies are ſtrong, and the grounds of them many, that you can ſo lull aſleep your Conſciences, or forget the publick Intereſt, and your own, as to be returning back with the multitude to *Egypt*, or that you ſhould with them be hankering after the *Leeks and Onyons* of our old bondage. Though it were poſſible you ſhould forget, yet certainly God will not, all the injuries and oppreſſions done by that Family to his Church and people in theſe and other Nations: Though the Inſcription [*Exit Tyrannus,*] which was fixed over the place where the Statue of the late King formerly ſtood at the *Exchange*, hath been blotted out by the Rabble, yet it is written with the Pen of a Diamond in the hearts of many thouſands, and will be ſo hereafter in the adamantine Rolls of Fame and Hiſtory. No matter then, though the profane Vulgar take a liberty to proclaim him both Saint and Martyr in the midſt of their Bon-fires, and their Tipple. All the good Fellows were ever at his Devotion, becauſe he was for theirs, and commanded it to

be observed upon the Sundays. But to the end it may be better known how good a King, and how great a Saint he was, we have taken the boldneſs at this inſtant to offer you an accompt of ſome part of the tranſactions during his reign: and becauſe there are too many in the City who wait the good time to re-erect his Statue, we deſire in the firſt place to preſent you his Picture, as it was drawn by a good hand, the Parliament, in the year 1647. at which time it was reſolved upon the Queſtion joyntly by Lords and Commons in Parliament aſſembled, *That they would make no further Addreſſes or Applications to the King, nor receive any Meſſage from him.* We revive this the rather, becauſe the memories of men being frail, cannot retain all particulars; which is the reaſon (we fear) why ſo many formerly engaged againſt him as high as any, upon conſcientious accompts, both Religious and Civil, are ſtaggering and backſliding, and have need of ſome quick and faithful *Monitor* to mind them of things paſt, and make them beware of the preſent, leſt they return with the Rout, and cry, Let us make our ſelves a King again of that Family; that Family which ſo cruelly perſecuted us and our Brethren, and which ſtill remains engaged by reaſon of State, and ancient Principles of Enmity and Intereſt, to plough up the old Furrows upon our backs, and redeliver our perſons and conſciences into the hands of our old Tormentors; and our men of might, and our Counſellours, to become ſacrifices to the revenge of an implacable Party. March on then, (my Lord and Gentlemen;) for believe it, there is in point of Safety no poſſibility of retreat, and much leſs in point of Conſcience or Honour: For, if you reſpect Conſcience, (as we hope you do) lay your hands upon your hearts, and tell us what hope you or we can have, that the reformed Religion and Cauſe will be protected and maintained by the Son, which was ſo irreligiouſly betrayed both at home and abroad by the Father. It may be you do not readily remember theſe things, nor how much blood was ſpilt by royal treachery, nor the manifold uſurpations and deſignes by him projected and acted upon our Liberty, the like never done by any Prince before: and for Blood, the Scotiſh Miniſters employed hither *Anno* 1644. proclaimed and publiſhed in print, *That the late King had ſpilt more blood then was ſhed in the ten Heathen Perſecutions of the Chriſtians:* and the Miniſters of

London

London (as we can ſhew you by ſeveral Prints of theirs) declared, That *ſatisfaction* ought to be had for *blood*; that he was a *man of blood*, and not capable of accommodation with the Parliament. We mention not this to upbraid them; for, we reverence their ancient Zeal in this particular, and humbly entreat them, as well as your Excellencie, and the Officers, and all the good people of theſe Nations, to obſerve the forementioned Reſolves of the Lords and Commons, which were introductory to that moſt noble Act of Juſtice afterwards executed upon the King.

And that it may appear to be ſuch, in deſpight of Ignorance and Envy, we have been bold here to preſent you in print that moſt remarkable *Declaration* of the Commons aſſembled in Parliament, in purſuance of the ſaid Reſolve of both Houſes, wherein they declare the Grounds and Reaſons why they paſſed the Reſolves of *no further Addreſs*; and therein you will ſee alſo, how well he deſerved to loſe his head, and his Family the Kingdome; whoſe corrupt and irreconcilable intereſt had been the head and fountain of thoſe Rivers of blood and miſery which had flowed ſo many years about theſe Nations.

VVould you ſee how and by whom the *Iriſh Rebellion* began, and upon whoſe ſcore thoſe unparallel'd barbarous Maſſacres of hundreds of thouſands of the Proteſtants in *Ireland*, do lie? VVould you know who it was that interpoſed betwixt the Parliament and the Duke of *Buckingham*, and would not permit the Proofs to be made againſt him concerning the death of his own Father? VVould you hear who it was that made ſo light of Parliaments, killing them as ſoon as born, and making them a ſcorn by diſſolution at pleaſure; and at length deſigned, and in fine drew ſword againſt the very Parliamentary Conſtitution, after he had by impriſonments deſtroyed ſeveral eminent Patriots for their freedome of ſpeech in the Parliament on the behalf of the Publick; and in particular, touching the death of his Father? VVould the Scots know who it was that deſigned them to be the firſt Subjects of Slavery in Spirituals and Civils, who hated their very Nation, though the Land of his Nativity; who made a Pacification with them, with a treacherous intent to break every Article; and manifeſted it as ſoon as he returned from *Edinburgh* to *London*, giving ſpecial command to burn the ſaid Articles by the hand

hand of the common Hangman, and it was publickly done? VVould you hear the Cries of the blood of *Rochel*, and of his own people ſacrificed in that Expedition to a forreign Intereſt, and of all the Proteſtants in *France*, for his barbarous betraying of them? Would you caſt your eye on paſt miſeries, and recollect the manifold intolerable Oppreſſions of people both in matter of Eſtate and Conſcience, and compare them with the indulgencies at the ſame time towards Papiſts, yea, and the deſignes laid to make uſe of Papiſts, to deſtroy both Parliaments and godly people together? VVould you underſtand the correſpondencies maintained with, and the encouragements given to, the bloody Iriſh Rebels, for the effecting his deſigne; together with the Correſpondencies and Sollicitations ſettled in forreign Countries to the ſame purpoſe, with all the Circumſtances evincing the truth? VVould you be informed how often, and with how much ſollicitude the Parliament, notwithſtanding all theſe things, did, for peace ſake, in a manner proſtitute themſelves, and hazard the whole Cauſe, by appointing Treaty after Treaty, which he never entertained but with intent of treachery, and thereby fruſtrated all their good intentions and endeavours, before ever they paſſed the *Votes of non-Addreſs*? Then, we beſeech you, read the following Declaration, and be ſatisfied to the full, whether or no the late King and his Family deſerved death and extirpation.

As for our parts, we very well recount the Series of paſt tranſactions, and do remember that in *February* 1647. when the two Houſes of Parliament paſſed their Reſolves of making no further Addreſs, but determined to lay him wholly aſide, they never were in a greater ſtate of ſecurity and freedom, never paſſed any thing with greater deliberation; and never the leaſt diſturbance or alteration aroſe in either of the Houſes againſt thoſe Reſolves, until ſome perſons in the Commons Houſe, other ways affected, and who by procuring Elections of Perſons fit for their turn to ſerve in Parliament, in vacant places, brought in new men of the Cavalier ſtamp (as is known) like themſelves; and thereby out-balancing the old Patriots, gained the Major Vote of the Houſe; and ſo with heat, and by deſigne, obtained a revoking of thoſe Reſolves which had been paſſed by both Houſes in a time of temper, upon moſt ſerious Conſideration: ſo that though we ſhall not take up-

on us *ex abſoluto* to juſtifie the interpoſure of the Souldiery afterwards, and their Excluſion of the Adverſe Members, (it being a tranſcendent Act, not to be meaſured by ordinary Rule, and which nothing can juſtifie but Supreme neceſſity) yet this we can truly ſay in their defence: In Judgement and Conſcience there was ſo indiſpenſible a neceſſity, that had they not interpoſed, thoſe Principles, and the Concernments of the Commonwealth, upon which the aforeſaid Reſolves of both Houſes were founded, had been utterly ſhipwrackt, and the whole Cauſe and its Defenders muſt inevitably have ſunk together; ſeeing the ſame heady confidence in treaty was then given to the Father, which too many now encline to allow unto the Son, who were firſt engaged againſt them in the War, and held out to the time of the laſt treaty; whom (of all other men) his party do hate upon that accompt; and, if they had an opportunity, would be ſure to make them fall the ſevereſt Sacrifices to the Revenge and Memory of his Father.

VVe urge not theſe things, with any intent to make the leaſt reflection upon your Excellency, and our Brethren the Officers under your command, as if we ſuſpected your ſincerity and conſtancy, after ſo many plain and poſitive Declarations againſt returning to our old Bondage under that Family which God ſo wonderfully caſt out before us, & wherein we are confident he, for his own Name and peoples ſake, will never more take pleaſure: but in regard the old Adverſaries behave themſelves inſolently and proudly, and publickly give out, the time is coming wherein they ſhall ſatisfie their luſts upon us, we thought it convenient to whet your ſpirits with a repetition of theſe things, as we have done our own, that the world may ſee we yet own our Cauſe; and do believe, that what we have done as Inſtruments in driving out that Family, we have done in Judgement and Conſcience; and that you take a convenient time to let men underſtand plainly that you alſo will continue of the ſame perſwaſion with us, for as much as there are none of the particulars charged upon the late King in the following Declaration, which would not, with many more, have been proved to his face by a Cloud of Witneſſes, if he would have put himſelf upon tryal, when he was called to anſwer for his actions.

Give us leave (we beſeech you) to adde one thing more, which

vve

we had almoſt forgotten, to ſhew the madneſs of thoſe men that cancelled the *Votes of non-Addreſs*, and would have brought back the late King by the Iſle of *Wight*-Treaty, and would now (if they might have their wills) bring in his Son by the like, *viz.* that at the very time when that Treaty was on foot; though this young man, who was then at Sea in the revolted Ships, declared all to be null which ſhould be agreed on by his Father; yet, hand over head, in they would have had him, as others would now reſtore the Son upon the very ſame terms which he ſo poſitively declared himſelf an enemy to in his Fathers days. Good God! what a ſpirit of ſlumber hath ſeiſed ſuch men, who were once deeply engaged with us in the common Cauſe!

As for your Excellencie, far be it from us to entertain any ſuſpition concerning you; ſuppoſing you muſt needs have upon your heart the true intereſt of Religion, and your own too; and how much it is concerned in the keeping out of that Family, whoſe reſtitution we believe God will not now permit unto any Deſigners, ſeeing he hath from time to time ſo ſignally blaſted all former undertakings. As to what concerns Religion, you know what hath been their Educaticon and Dependency abroad; and ſhould they return, 'tis obvious, all other parties would be put upon their guard to defend themſelves againſt him and his Clergie at home; and ſo all ſorts of religious Parties being conſtrained to combine for mutual preſervation and liberty, the War will ſoon be renewed upon the point vvhere it at firſt began.

As to your ovvn intereſt in the ſtation vvhere God hath placed you, 'tis vvell knovvn vvhat the private ſence and opinion of that Party is concerning your Excellency, becauſe you have been an Inſtrument in keeping *Scotland* many years vvith ſo great vigilance and prudence, free from the attempts of that irreconcileable Enemy. Admit ſuch a thing vvere poſſible, vvhich ſome fancie, that you ſhould be the man that vvould put the Crovvn again upon the head of that Family; is it not plain vvhat fate (ſetting aſide all other Conſiderations) you might expect from a ſeeming reconciled Enemy, and a King too? it being the guiſe of Kings (as the Hiſtorians from innumerable Examples do obſerve) ever to recompence vvith hate their moſt meritorious Servants; making no difference in return, betvvixt the higheſt Obligation, and the greateſt

greateſt Injury. The examples are ſo frequent in our own Chronicles, as well as forreign, that he who runs may read it; and 'tis not proper here to recite them.

Alas, (Sirs) 'tis not an Army that ſhall ſecure you, nor the power of the Militia that can ſecure our ancient Senators, (if any who have been engaged can be ſo fond as to think of ſecurity) for, let the *Yong Man* come in with freedom to encounter both *Army* and *Militia* with the bare title of *King*, and actual poſſeſſion of the Throne, the eyes of *Army* and *Militia* will ſoon be dazeled with the ſplendour of that *Gay Thing*, and fall down and worſhip at the ſight and hope of the Kingdoms of this world, and the glory of them; and then all Bonds of Agreement (if any be) will prove but Ruſhes.

Oh, for God and his peoples ſake, yea, and for the City of *Londons* ſake, whom *Charles* the Father branded in his Papers with the Character of *Diſloyal and Rebellious City*, (though at that time moſt renowned in her actings) ſet an end to the expectations of malicious enemies, and ſtaggering friends, by clearing up your ſelves, that we may ſee you in the light, vigorouſly aſſerting the good Cauſe of theſe Nations; yea, for the ſake of Parliaments we ask it: and we doubt it not at your hand, ſeeing the people are not like to be brought to contend any more for Parliaments, if after ſo long a Conteſt he ſhould gain an opportunity of improving a poſſeſſion of the Crown to an uſurpation over the Priviledges and Majeſty of Parliaments.

But (my Lord and Gentlemen) leaving theſe things which touch onely upon your worldly Intereſts and Concernments, we are bold to ſay, (though the jealouſies of weaker Brethren be great and many) we believe our ſelves to be ſure of you, becauſe we have your ſouls as well as your perſonal intereſts at pawn for your fidelity to the Publick. We remember your Declaration ſent from *Scotland* to the *Churches*, and other Declarations at the ſame time. We might mind you, if it were needful, how you have called God to witneſs, *That the ground of your late undertaking in* Scotland *was, The vindication of the Liberties of the People, with the protection and encouragement of the godly and faithful therein, &c. and that you have no intention or purpoſes to return to our old Bondage; but that the Providence of God having made us free at*

the coſt of ſo much blood, you will never be found ſo unfaithful to God and his people, as to looſe ſo glorious a Cauſe; but do reſolve, with Gods aſſiſtance, to endeavour a maintaining of our dear-purchaſed Liberties both Spiritual and Civil. But ſeeing theſe Declarations made *before God, Angels and Men*, (as your ſelves have ſaid) do ſo much concern your ſouls in the obſervation of them, that they cannot but be much upon your hearts; therefore we mention them, not as doubting you, or endeavouring to perſwade you, but to eaſe our own minds, and comfort the hearts of our Brethren, who have need to be comforted: And do wait for a good time when your Excellency ſhall break forth, and more viſibly appear (through all the Clouds of Fear and Jealouſie) a Defence and Protection (through the goodneſs of God) to all his people that fear him in theſe Nations; and ſo their hearts univerſally will return unto you. In aſſurance whereof, and that you will be very much confirmed and encouraged after the reading of this Declaration, We remain,

(My Lord)

March 22. 1659.

Your Excellencies moſt faithful Friends and Servants in the Common Cauſe.

A DECLARATION OF THE *COMMONS of ENGLAND* In PARLIAMENT assembled.

HOw fruitleſs our former Addreſſes have been to the King, is ſo well known to the world, that it may be expected we ſhould now Declare, Why wee made the laſt, or ſo many before, rather than why wee are reſolved to make no more.

Wee cannot acknowledge any great Confidence that our words could have been more perſwaſive with Him, than Sighs and Groans, the Tears and crying Blood (an heavy Cry!) the Blood of Fathers, Brothers and Children at once, the Blood of many Hundred thouſand Free-born Subjects in Three great Kingdomes, which Cruelty it ſelf could not but pity to deſtroy.

Wee muſt not be ſo unthankful to God, as to forget wee never were forced to any Treaty; and yet wee have no leſs than Seven times made ſuch Applications to the King, and tendred ſuch Propoſitions, that might occaſion the world to judge, Wee have not onely yeelded up our Wills and Affections, but our Reaſon alſo, and Judgement, for obtaining any true Peace, or good Accommodation.

But it never yet pleaſed the King to accept of any Tender fit for us to make, nor yet to offer any fit for us to receive.

It is very well known, That the Propoſitions ſent to the King at *Oxford*, and Treated on at *Uxbridge*, were agreed by the Parliaments of both Kingdomes, not onely as Juſt, but Neceſſary alſo for the very Being of theſe Kingdomes in a ſetled Peace and Safety.

And although the Kings perſiſting in his wonted waies and Denials, might have cauſed us to improve the Advantage of that great Succeſs (which it pleaſed God to afford us) Yet when His Armies were all broken, ſo that in Diſguiſe Hee fled from *Oxford* to the Scots at *Newark*, and from thence went to *Newcaſtle*; and that *Oxford*, and almoſt all His Gariſons were taken, We tendred at *Newcaſtle* Propoſitions, the ſame in effect, which had been preſented before in the midſt of all His Strength and Forces.

And notwithſtanding this Change of His Condition, and Denial of thoſe Propoſitions, after Hee was left to the Commiſſioners of Parliament, and our Brethren of *Scotland* quietly departed home; after all His

Garisons taken, and no visible Force in the whole Kingdome appearing for Him, the King being at the sole Disposse of the Parliament without Dispute; yet even then the same Propositions were again presented to Him at *Hampton-Court*.

In all which Addresses, the Commissioners of *Scotland* agreed with us, and joyned with our Commissioners in attending the King.

The King not granting our Propositions, but still giving such strange unexpected and conditional Answers or Denials, as might justly have made us consider some other course for setling the Kingdome in Peace and Safety, without any further Application; which was also so far agreed by our Brethren of *Stotland* (at their leaving *Newcastle*) that their Commissioners Declared, in case the King consented not to the Propositions, Yet they would maintain the Treaties and Union made between the Kingdomes.

But so desirous were wee of His Concurrence in the Settlement of the Kingdomes Peace, that wee yet again resolved upon another Address; and did so qualifie the said Propositions, that, where it might stand with the Publick Safety, His wonted Scruples and Objections were prevented or removed.

And although wee could not forget how dangerous and void of Success our former Treaties had been, and that a Personal Treaty had been Declared by both Houses, and the Commissioners of *Scotland* to bee unsafe, without Security and Satisfaction first given; yet wee also yeelded to that, on condition the King would Sign but Four Bills, which wee judged not onely Just and Honourable, but Necessary even for present Peace and Safety, during such a Treaty.

Wee have cause enough to remember, That Hee sometimes denied to receive our Humble Petitions for Peace; and when wee desired Him to appoint some place for a Committee of both Houses to attend Him with Propositions for Peace, Hee named *Windsor*, promising to abide thereabouts, till they came unto Him: But presently marched forward (that very night) so near *London*, that Hee had almost surprized it, while Hee had so engaged himself for a Treaty, had not some few of our Foot at *Brainford*, with invincible Courage, exposed themselves to apparent Death, Till His Army was forced to retire in Fear and Shame, with the Guilt of most Inhumane and Barbarous Cruelties committed at *Brainford*, to assure *London* what it must have expected, had not God prevented those Bloody Designs.

And wee well remember, That the King once sent us a specious Message of renewing a Treaty, when at the same time His Messenger was instructed how to manage that Bloody Massacre in *London*, which was then Designed by virtue of the Kings Commission, since published.

And about the time of the Treaty at *Uxbridge*, Hee excused Himself to the Queen by a Letter under His own Hand, as forced to that Treaty by the mutinous Motions of His Mungrel Parliament at *Oxford*; and that

that hee could not finde any two of them of His mind, elſe Hee would not have acknowledged us for the Parliament of *England*; which yet Hee did with a Proteſtation, entred into the Council-Books, That His calling us ſo, did not make us a Parliament.

All which was but ſmall Encouragements, again to make our ſelves His Sport or Scorn by any other Treaty; yet wee now yeelded to this alſo.

But notwithſtanding this, and all former Tenders, Wee have now received ſuch a Denial, that wee are in deſpair of any good by Addreſſes to the King, neither muſt wee bee ſo injurious to the People, in further delaying their Settlement, as any more to preſs His Conſent to theſe or any other Propoſitions.

Nor can wee ſee why it ſhould bee expected a new Engagement could prevail on Him, or oblige Him more ſtrongly to the Kingdome, than the Solemn Oath of His Coronation, and the ſeveral other Vows, Proteſtations and Imprecations ſo frequently by Him broken, during His whole Reign, and ſo often renewed before God and the whole World.

Wee may be the more juſtified herein, by thoſe that know what paſſed between the King and our Brethren the Scots, when thoſe Articles were agreed and confirmed in the firſt Pacification not long before theſe Wars; which, as ſoon as their backs were turned, and their Armies out of ſight, were diſavowed again by the King, and by His Command publickly burnt at *London* by the Hands of the Hang-man.

Which yet might have been forgotten, had not a continued track of Breach of Truſt in the Three Kingdomes, ſince hee wore the Crown, made us (though unwilling) to remember it.

Wee take no pleaſure to repeat our own Miſeries, or others Miſchief, if it might be hidden or forgotten; But wee are now forced to ſpeak what hath long been ſuffered in too much ſilence.

Himſelf in publick Speeches and Declarations, hath laid a fit foundation for all Tyranny, by this moſt Deſtructive Maxim or Principle, which Hee ſaith Hee muſt avow, *That Hee oweth an Account of His Actions to none but God alone*; *and*, *That the Houſes of Parliament, joynt or ſeparate, have no power either to make or Declare any Law.*

The Private Articles agreed in order to the Match with *Spain*, and thoſe other Private Articles upon the *French* Marriage, ſo prejudicial to the Peace, Safety, Laws, Religion here eſtabliſhed, and the continued Correſpondence which hath ſince been carried on with *Rome*, are ſo evident as cannot bee denied.

Wee cannot but call to Minde the Proceedings and Paſſages of the Parliament held in the ſecond year of this Kings Reign, concerning the Death of his Royal Father.

The Tenth of *May*, 1626. the Houſe of Commons charged the Duke of *Buckingham*, among other things, in theſe words, (*viz.*)

WHereas the ſworn Phyſicians of our late Soveraign Lord, King James of bleſſed Memory, attending on His Majeſty in the month of March, in the Two and twentieth of His moſt Glorious Raign, in the times of His ſickneſs, being an Ague, Did in due and neceſſary care of and for the recovery of His health, and preſervation of His perſon, upon and after ſeveral mature Conſultations in that behalf had and holden at ſeveral times in the ſame month, reſolve, and gave direction, That nothing ſhould be applyed or given unto His Highneſs, by way of Phyſick or Diet, during His ſaid ſickneſs, but by and upon their general Advice and Conſents: And after good deliberation thereof firſt had, more eſpecially by their like care, and upon like Conſultations, Did juſtly reſolve, and publickly give warning to, and for all the Gentlemen and other Servants and Officers of His ſaid late Majeſties Bed-chamber, That no Meat or Drink whatſoever ſhould bee given unto Him within two or three hours next before the uſual time of, and for the coming of His Fit in the ſaid Ague, nor during the continuance thereof, nor afterwards until His cold Fit were paſt. The ſaid Duke of Buckingham being a ſworn Servant of His late Majeſty, of and in His Majeſties ſaid Bed-chamber, contrary to his duty, and the tender reſpect which he ought to have had of His Majeſties moſt Sacred Perſon; and after the Conſultations, Reſolutions, Directions, and Warning aforeſaid. Did nevertheleſs, without any ſufficient warrant in that behalf, unduly cauſe and procure certain Plaiſters, and a certain Drink or Potion to bee provided for the uſe of His ſaid Majeſty, without the direction or privity of His ſaid late Majeſties Phyſicians, not prepared by any of His Majeſties ſworn Apothecaries or Chirurgeons, but compounded of ſeveral Ingredients to them unknown; Notwithſtanding the ſame plaiſter, or ſome plaiſter like thereunto, having been formerly adminiſtred unto His ſaid Majeſty, did procure ſuch ill effects, as that ſome of the ſaid ſworn Phyſicians did altogether diſallow thereof, and utterly refuſed to meddle any further with His ſaid Majeſty, until thoſe plaiſters were removed, as being prejudicial

to

to the health of His Majesty. Yet nevertheless, the same plaister, as also a Drink or potion, was provided by him the said Duke, which he the said Duke, by colour of some insufficient and slight pretences, did upon Monday the One and twentieth day of March, in the Two and twentieth year aforesaid, when His Majesty (by the judgement of His said Physicians) was in the declination of His Disease, cause and procure the said plaister to be applyed to the Breast and Wrists of His said late Majesty; and then also, at and in His Majesties Fit of his said Ague the same Monday, and at several times, within two hours before the coming of the same Fit, and before His Majesties then cold Fit was passed, did deliver and cause to be delivered, several quantities of the said Drink or potion to His late Majesty; who thereupon, at the same times, within the seasons in that behalf prohibited by His Majesties Physicians as aforesaid, did by the means and procurement of the said Duke, drink, and take divers quantities of the said Drink or potion, applyed and given unto, and taken and received by his said Majesty as aforesaid, Great distempers, and divers ill symptoms appeared upon His said Majesty; insomuch that the said Physicians finding His Majesty the next morning much worse in the estate of his health, & holding a Consultation thereabout, did by joynt consent send unto the said Duke, praying him not to adventure to minister unto His Majesty any more Physick without their Allowance and Approbation; And His said Majesty himself, finding himself much diseased and afflicted with pain and sickness after his then Fit, when by the course of his Disease he expected intermission and ease, did attribute the cause of such his trouble unto the said plaister and drink which the said Duke had so given, and caused to be administred unto him; which said adventrous act, by a person obliged in duty and thankfulness, done to the person of so great a King, after so ill success of the like formerly administred, contrary to such directions as aforesaid, and accompanied with so unhappy an event, to the great grief and discomfort of all His Majesties Subjects in general is an Offence and Misdemeanour of so high a nature, as may justly be called,

and is by the ſaid Commons *deemed to be,* An act of tranſcendent preſumption, and of dangerous conſequence.

And delivered it at a Conference to the Lords.

After dwhich the King came into the Lords Houſe and took notice of that Charge, and told them he could be a witneſs to clear him in every one of them; unto which charge, no anſwer came in unto the eighth of *June* following, and the tenth day after it was ordered by the Houſe of Peers to be communicated to the Houſe of Commons: But while the Houſe was preparing to ſend up their proofs upon which they declared, that they doubted not but to have judgement againſt the ſaid Duke, the King expreſſed a ſuddain purpoſe to diſſolve the Parliament, and although the Houſe of Peers petitioned for its continuance, expreſſing their great and univerſal ſorrow for his intentions to diſſolve it, yet, notwithſtanding all this the ſaid Parliament was diſſolved the fifteenth day of the ſame *June*.

At the ſame time alſo during the Parliament, Sir *Dudley Diggs* and Sir *John Elliot*, who eſpecially managed that Conference and Examinations, were committed cloſe priſoners to the Tower within two days after the ſaid Charge, by warrant under the Kings own hand.

And Meſſages and interruptions were conſtantly ſent from the King to the Houſes while they had the ſaid Charge in Agitation, and the Parliament being diſſolved before Juſtice could be done, there never was any legal enquiry made at any time ſince, concerning the death of the ſaid King.

We leave the world now to judge where the guilt of this remains.

We can fully ſhew how *Rochel* was by him betrayed, and thereby a fatal blow given to the Proteſtant Cauſe in *France*: how alſo hee lent divers of the Navie Royal, and other Merchant-ſhips, to the *French* King, to be employed againſt thoſe whom he was engaged to have aſſiſted. And when ſome of the Commanders and others in thoſe ſhips, were ſo much *Engliſh* as to diſpute thoſe Orders; wee can ſhew the King's Letter under his own hand to Captain *Penington*, to put them into the ſervice of the *French* King, or to ſink them in caſe of refuſal.

We cannot forget the deſigns to enſlave us by the *German*-Horſe, (that we ſay nothing of the late *Spaniſh* Fleet, with a great Army therein, brought into the Downs, 1639.) and to grinde us by enforced Loans, Privie-Seals, Coat and Conduct-money, enlarging of Foreſts, incloſing of Commons, ingroſſing of Gun-powder, with innumerable Patents and Monopolies of Malt, Salt, Sea-coal, Sope, Leather, Wine, Sugar, Allom, Farthings, Pins, Tobacco, and almoſt all things elſe; together with that one *Compendium* of all Oppreſſion and Slavery, called *Ship-money*.

The torture of our bodies, by moſt cruel whippings, ſlitting of noſes, cutting off ears, branding of cheeks, Racks and Pillories, with cloſe Impri-

Imprisonment at pleasure, might be the sooner forgotten, had not our souls been also Lorded over, led captive into Superstition and Idolatry, triumphed on by Oathes *ex Officio*, Excommunications, Ceremonious Articles, new Canons, Canon-Oathes, &c.

One thing more was found, to make us worse than Slaves, in that we might not hope for liberty: The very name of Parliament became so odious at the Court, that if in twelve years time there was so much as one summoned, it served but to shew the lawless power of those that could not be content only to dissolve it at pleasure, but we must be forbidden by Proclamation to speak or hope for another Parliament: And at such dissolutions, there was no Priviledge strong enough to secure the closets, cabinets, pockets, and persons of those that in duty and conscience did but vote or act as men, above meer slaves: this was fault enough for close imprisonment and death; for that hath also followed.

Nor was it enough thus to enslave one Kingdom, but the same Projectors who had so enthralled *England*, must contrive also to reduce *Ireland*, and conform *Scotland*, that so the mingling of Neighbour-tears, might by sympathy increase each others wo.

Scotland was to be the first Scene, where a new Liturgie, with new Canons, are to make the Prologue to the following Act.

This not succeeding as was hoped, an Army must be raised to force complyance; but by the mediation of the *English* Lords, a Pacification is concluded; and it held till the Kings return to Court made him forget and disavow it: but the burnt Articles left ashes enough to beget a new flame.

There wanted but a form of Law to make all just: For this, and for supply; not for advice, a Parliament is ventured on; yet with Proviso, that it should not hurt, although it would not help; and not complying (as was hoped to assist that Warre against the *Scots*) was Crime enough to merit dissolution with a false and scandalous Declaration in the King's Name.

The Parliament being dissolved, the King took from his subjects by power what he could not otherwise obtain.

Wee need not tell the world how in the midst of all our miseries the *Scots* (our Brethren) entered with a powerful Army, marching on as Friends, till they were forced to make their passage over *Tine*.

It was then thought necessary by the King to summon this present Parliament; in which we did proceed with ease, so long as there was but any hope we would comply with him against the *Scots*, and give assistance to that Warre.

But he quickly found it vain to hope to bee supplyed by us against the *Scots*; And when we began to consider how we came to bee again involved in a new Warre (notwithstanding the late Pacification) we saw it impossible to quash those pernitious counsels at the present, or to

prevent

prevent them for the future, without queſtioning their Authors: At this time the King diſcovered himſelf ſo ſtrongly and paſſionately affected to ſuch malignant Counſellours and their counſels, that he would ſooner deſert or force this Parliament and Kingdom, than alter his courſe, and deliver up his wicked Counſellours to Law and Juſtice.

By this time the Queens pious deſign (as they termed it) to advance Popery was almoſt ready for the birth, being helped much by a Popiſh Faſt, enjoyned weekly by the Popes Nuncio, and by Letters from Secretary *Windebanck*, who durſt not abide examination, but after he was queſtioned by the Houſe of Commons, got a paſs from the King to go beyond ſea.

What was done abroad will hereafter appear: although the King made light of all our intelligence from forraign parts; yet he could not ſo well avoyd or deny the Commiſſions given at Court to Popiſh Agents for private levies, or that the Papiſts began to riſe and arm themſelves in the North-weſt of *England* and *Wales*, till they were ſuppreſſed; or that there were Regiments raiſing and liſting in *London*, and parts adjoyning, under pretence of Souldiers for *Portugal*; or that ſome of theſe came to ſeize and poſſeſſe themſelves of the Tower, and the Lieutenant threatned for refuſing them; all which hee knew might be ſufficiently proved.

To the like pious deſign we may referre the great Cabal for bringing up the Northern Army to over-awe the Parliament, which the King did ſo often and ſolemnly diſavow, *as nothing but looſe diſcourſes of a modeſt Petition, which alſo vaniſht two or three months (he ſaith) before we knew it.*

But he now knoweth we can prove the chief part of that Cabal came from himſelf to the main Actors, and that ſome of them did diſſwade him from his way, becauſe it was ſo ſharp and high, exceeding the limits of Honour and Law: And yet their propoſitions which were the lower way, were much above the ſize of Petitions, as they are already publiſhed in their own Confeſſions. And it is very ſtrange, Mr. *Percy*, Sir *John Suckling*, and Mr. *Germin* (ſent away by the King's ſpecial Warrant) ſhould flee beyond Sea only upon diſcovery of a modeſt Petition.

But notwithſtanding any diſſwaſions, yet the King perſiſted in his way; ſo that after this, there was appointed a Meeting of Officers at *Burrough-bridge*, and Propoſitions made, with private Inſtructions brought from the King, by ſome that told them they were unwiſe to ſhew their teeth, except they would bite; and that the King would pawn his Jewels for them, would they be faithful to him; & if they marched forward, they ſhould be met by the Prince and the Earl of *Newcaſtle* with a good body of Horſe; and that the *French* alſo would be ready to aſſiſt them.

This was in *April*, and we had notice of this in the beginning of *May*, when alſo there was a deſign for ſome *French* to have ſeized on *Portſmouth*, whither the Queen was then going: but the Ports were better ſecured, by a ſpecial Committee.

So

So far was it alſo from vaniſhing divers months before our notice, that ſome of our Cabaliſts, after examination by us, were again attempted by the King, and ſome of them ſent again to the Army with new inſtructions and directions ſigned by the King himſelf, as moſt clearly appeareth by comparing the Journals of *May* 1641. with the months following; together with the time ſpecified in the confeſſions of Sir *Jacob Aſtley*, Sir *John Conyers*, Col. *Legg* and others, already publiſhed.

And when there was yet demur among the chief Officers, there went another Agent from Court, to quicken them, and treat of ſome directions ſigned by the King: But he was to go farther, the Scots Army being then at *Newcaſtle*.

What offers were made to them of the Plunder of *London*, if they would advance, or of four Northern Counties, with three hundred thouſand pounds, or Jewels of great value, to ſtand *Neuters* in that deſign, is already declared by ſome who may better know the propoſitions made by *O Neal* (who brake priſon here) Sir *John Hinderſon* and others with Letters of Credence from the King; After that he was ſo reſolute to go into *Scotland*, that he could not be perſwaded by our Petitions to defer that journey, and though in the year 1641. he was not pleaſed to leave ſuch a Commiſſion as the Parliament deſired of him, yet was he pleaſed before, in the year 1639 to intruſt Secretary *Windebanke* a known favourer of Papiſts, with blank ſheets both of Parchment and Paper ſigned with his ſign *Mannual*, which were imployed by him for diſpoſing great commands by Land and Sea.

It is well known what Letters the King ſent into *Ireland* by the Lord *Dillon* immediately before the Rebellion, and where the great Seal of *Scotland* was, and in whoſe hands when that Commiſſion was ſealed at *Edenburgh* to the Iriſh Rebels, who diſperſed Copies thereof in *Ireland*, with Letters or Proclamations, and we have a Copy thereof atteſted by Oath, with depoſitions alſo of thoſe who have ſeen it under the Seal.

Which Commiſſion was promiſed (as ſome of the chiefeſt Rebels confeſſed) to the Iriſh Committee at *London*, for the moſt part Papiſts, (which was thought a good *Omen*) and ſince moſt active Rebels, upon whoſe private meditation the King gave away more than Five Counties, ſaying, that he expected they ſhould recompence him ſome other way; and, That he would willingly grant all their deſires, but he was oppreſſed by the Parliament in *England*, of whom he wiſhed that he could be revenged.

It hath formerly been declared, how we deſired and preſſed the King to diſband that Iriſh Popiſh Army, which (as was cleared at the Earl of *Strafford*'s tryal) was raiſed to reduce the Kingdoms: But ſometimes he would give no anſwer at all, and ſometimes did plainly tel us, He could not diſband it for reaſons beſt known to himſelf: Sometimes the *Scots* muſt firſt diſband; and then there was a new preſence of divers Regiments promiſed to *Spain*, for which the King was engaged, and could not go back,

Which we now wonder not at, for by the Confeſſion of *Mac Carte* and *Macquire*, with others, it is clear, that this pretence of men for the King of *Spain*'s ſervice, was but a colour to keep ſome in Arms for a foundation of that Rebellion; and that ſome of the Committee coming from *London* contrived this Plot for defence of the King, who was then (they ſaid) ſo much injured in *England* and *Scotland*.

And the firſt clauſe of that Oath enjoyned by the General Councel of Rebels, was, To bear true Faith and Allegiance to King *Charles*, and by all means to maintain his Royal Prerogative againſt the Puritans in the Parliament of *England*.

And although we declared to the King, That they ſtiled themſelves the Kings or Queens Army, yet we could not obtain a Proclamation againſt them in divers months, and then alſo but Forty Copies might be Printed, and expreſſe Order given, that none ſhould be publiſhed til his further directions, as appeareth under his own Secretaries hand.

Which might very well ſtand with the Letters from Court to the Lord *Muskery* (a great Rebel in *Munſter*) who was aſſured, his Majeſty was well pleaſed with what he did, and would in time give him thanks for it, although for the preſent it did not then ſtand with the convenience of the Kings affairs, to give him publick countenance; and this was afterwards made good by the King, who in one of the Letters taken at *Naſeby*, commandeth the Earl of *Ormond* to give particular thanks to the ſaid *Muskery* and *Plunket*.

We may yet remember how the Earl of *Leiceſter* was delayed and detained by the King (beyond all pretence) from going againſt the Rebels.

How alſo the King refuſed a Commiſſion (often aſked by both Houſes) for the Lord *Brooks* and Lord *Wharton*, when at ſeveral times there were large Proviſions made for relief of *Munſter*, and other parts ſo much diſtreſſed, that *Limerick* was wholly loſt.

But when the Rebels wanted Commanders at their very beginning, we have long ſince named divers Papiſts and perſons of quality that by the Kings ſpecial Warrants after the Ports were ſhut by both Houſes of Parliament, paſſed hence, and headed the ſaid Rebels.

And we likewiſe named Commanders and Officers, whom the King called off from their Truſt againſt the Rebels, and Ships from their Guards at Sea, that ſo the Rebels might be ſupplyed with foreign aids, beſides all the Arms and Ammunition they had from the Kings Magazines there, and from hence alſo, by the Earl of *Antrim*, Lord *Aboin*, and others from the Queen, although the Councel of *Ireland* deſiring ſome pieces of Battery from hence for the poor Proteſtants there, could not obtain them from the King: But ſome of our Ships ſent to relieve them, were ſeized by his Men of War, (as the Cloaths and other Proviſions by Land) and ſold or exchanged for Arms and Ammunition for the King: and the Rebels gave Letters of Mart for taking the Parliaments Ships, but freed the Kings as their very good friends.

Let

Let the World now judge, how much reaſon we had to believe the Rebels, when they did ſo often ſwear they did nothing without good Authority and Commiſſion from the King, ſo that Sir *Phelim O Neal* would not be perſwaded, General *Leſley* had any Authority from the King againſt the Rebels.

Divers months alſo before it began, there was information given upon Oath, to the Arch-Biſhop and others of the Kings Councel, That there was a great deſign among the Papiſts for a General Maſſacre of all the Proteſtants in *Ireland* and *England* alſo, and that a great Royal Perſon had a hand in it, but it was to be managed by direction from the Pope.

And beſides the Kings Letters to the Pope when he was in *Spain*, and others long ſince his return, on the behalf of the Duke of *Lorraign* (which muſt be requited by the ſaid Duke with a Foreign Army to invade *England* upon the Kings deſign. It is clear, that ſome months before the Iriſh Rebellion, the King had an Agent in *Rome*, as by divers of his own Secretaries papers appeareth.

And that the ſame deſigns were laid for *England* alſo at the ſame time, if we might not believe the confeſſion of the Queens Mothers Servants, (atteſted upon Oath) that there were many thouſands appointed to cut the Proteſtants throats in this Kingdome alſo, when the King went to *Scotland*: yet we may remember it was confeſſed by ſome of the principal Rebels, that their Popiſh Committee here with the King, had communicated that deſign to many Papiſts in *England*, by whoſe advice, though ſome things were altered, yet it was generally concluded, that about the ſame time there ſhould be the like proceedings of the Papiſts here; inſomuch that when *Charle Mount* was ſeized in *Ireland*, Sir *Phelim O Neal* and other great Rebels did with much confidence affirm the Tower was alſo ſeized at *London*, and the Arch-Biſhop releaſed by their party here, where they ſaid, there was as much blood running as in *Ireland*.

And it is very well known that upon the Kings return from *Scotland*, beſides the unuſual preparations of Ammunition and Arms, with new Guards within and about *Whitehall*: and beſides the great quantity of Fire-works found and taken in Papiſts Houſes, the Tower was alſo filled with new Guards, many Cannoneers, Granadoes, and all ſorts of Fire-works, Morters, with other great Pieces of battery, ready prepared and mounted againſt the City. Sir *William Belfour*, who was formerly threatned, for refuſing the new Guards while the Earl of *Strafford* lived, was now diſplaced, and ſuch Officers placed by the King as were not only ſuſpected by us, but the whole City, (who durſt not abide in their own Houſes, as by their ſeveral Petitions is manifeſt.

From this time the track of open force againſt this Parliament and Kingdome did appear more viſible.

The Charge of Treaſon againſt ſome of both Houſes, and that unparalleld Act of violence by the Kings comming ſo attended to the Houſe of Commons, (after he had diſcharged our Guards, denying us any, but what might

reſtrain or overawe us) was but the Prologue to a bloody Tragedy, had not the Parliament, and good affections of the City interrupted that deſign, and cauſed the Kings new Guards (already liſted and moulded under Colonels and other Officers) to withdraw a little to another ſervice.

Neither would the Country more comply with theſe deſigns, although they were attempted with unuſual arguments, and armed Troops in warlike manner to compel them; which ſucceeded yet ſo ill, that the Lord *Digby* muſt not abide the trial, but was ſent away upon a ſpecial Errand by the Kings own Warrant.

What his Errand was beyond Sea, we may well conclude from the Liſt of Arms and Ammunition (for which we can produce the Kings own hand) taken amongſt his Papers, and printed with his Letters to the Queen, at her firſt landing in *Holland*.

What advice he gave for the Kings retiring to ſome ſafe place, and declare himſelf, and how the King followed it, it is known well enough.

But before the Kings ſetling at *Yorke*, the notice we had of his Commiſſions to the Earl of *Newcaſtle*, and Colonel *Legg*, for attempting *Newcaſtle* and *Hull*, may juſtly occaſion us to provide for their ſecurity, eſpecially when we had certain intelligence from the Low-Countries of forreign Forces from *Denmarke*, to come in about *Hull*, whither alſo came with the Lord *Digby*, divers Commanders, with much Ammunition and Arms from other Forreign parts.

And had not the *Swedes* at that time invaded part of the King of *Denmarks* Dominions, we had had reaſon enough to expect a ſtorm that way, to have fallen alſo on *Hull*, where was then a great Magazine; and before we ever asked the King to remove it, we repreſented to him, that beſides all other intelligence of former Negotiations, we had good notice of a Fleet preparing in *Denmarke*, and that one of the Lord *Digbies* ſervants had ſollicited a Mariner (or Pilot) to conduct it into *Hull*.

And before that time, the King had diſpatched an Agent into *Denmarke*, with Letters of Credit, complaining againſt the Parliament as unjuſtly fixed on the deſtruction of one man (the Earl of *Strafford* then living) but he was reſolved to take another courſe, and therefore deſired Ayde.

And there came ſuch an anſwer, that among the large offers made to the *Scots* before the Kings going into *Scotland*. They were told, the King was aſſured of Horſes and Money from *Denmark*. And by intercepted Letters from the *Hague* to Secretary *Nicholas*, long ſince publiſhed, we found, that (beſides many Arms and Cannon then provided in *Holland*) There were alſo coming from *Denmark* Ships with ten thouſand Arms for Foot, and fifteen hundred Horſe for the Kings uſe: And that *Cockyan* very handſomely evaded, that which was like to have fruſtrated all their expectations from thence.

And in *Cockyans* latter Inſtructions (for there had been others before ſent into *Denmark*) long ſince printed; The King ſaith, We were then begining to make head againſt him, and were then leavying Forces, and therefore he preſſeth

preſſeth for Men, Money, Arms, and Ships from *Denmarke*, for which alſo he uſeth many Arguments, and among others one in theſe words:

That in purſuance of their great Deſign of extirpating the Royal Blood and Monarchy of England, *they have endeavoured likewiſe to lay a great blemiſh upon his Royal Family, endeavouring to Illegitimate all derived from his Siſter, at once to cut off the Intereſt and pretentions of the whole Race; which their moſt deteſtable and ſcandalous Deſign they have purſued, examining witneſſes, and conferring circumſtances and times to colour their pretentions in ſo great a fault; and which as his ſacred Majeſty of* England *in the true ſenſe of Honour of his Mother doth abhor, and will puniſh; ſo he expects his concurrence in vindicating a Siſter of ſo happy memory, and by whom ſo near an union and continued League of Amity hath been produced between the Families and Kingdomes.*

A moſt falſe ſcandalous charge of that which never entred into our thoughts; So that we believe there never was a more unworthy Act done by any Prince, ſo to betray his Truſt and People to a Foreign Nation, by incenſing them with ſuch an odious ſlander, to the ſhame of his own Mother.

Which we repeat the rather, becauſe when we declared our Intelligence, that *Cockeran* was ſent into *Denmark* to procure Forces thence, *The King diſavowed it, calling it a vile ſcandal, in his Anſwer to our Declaration of the* 22 *of Octobet*, 1642.

In the ſame Inſtructions to *Cockeran*, he declareth alſo, That he then expected aſſiſtance from all his neighbour Princes and Allies, in particular the greateſt part of the States Fleet from *Holland*, whither he confeſſed he had then ſent the Queen.

He might alſo have added, that with the Queen (contrary to his Truſt) he had ſent the ancient Jewels of the Crown of *England* (of a very vaſt value) to be pawned or ſold for Ammunition and Arms, of which we had certain knowledge before we took up Arms.

Neither had we ſo much as once aſked the ſettling of the *Militia* till the Queen was going into *Holland*.

And

And it may be remembred, that many months before the Voyage to *Holland* She was going beyond Sea, had not our motions to the King ſtayed her, (And that amongſt other Reaſons given) becauſe we then alſo heard, ſhe had packed up the Cown Jewels and Plate, by which we might ſee what was then alſo intended by that Journey, had we not prevented it till the Winter.

But at *Burrough Briggs* before the Earl of *Straffords* death the Officers were told, the King would pawn his Jewels for them, and the French were promiſed to aſſiſt them.

All this and much more yet to be ſaid, maketh us ſtand amazed at the Kings ſolemn Proteſtations, ſo often made, calling God to witneſſe, and revenge it alſo, if he had any thought of bringing up the Northern Army, or of levying Forces to wage war with his Parliament, or to invade the Rights of his Subjects, or of bringing in foreign Forces or Aids from beyond Sea, *which* (as himſelf ſayes in his Declarations) *would not only have buried this Kingdome in ſuddain deſtruction and ruine, but his own Name and Poſterity in perpetuall ſcorn and infamy.*

Yet at very firſt, when himſelf and the Lords made ſuch a Proteſtation at *York* againſt levying Forces, he commanded his Subjects by Proclamation to reſiſt the Orders of Parliament: And had ſigned that moſt illegal Commiſſion of Array. And did privately contrive the getting out of the Stores, Ships or otherwiſe ſuch Ordinance, Powder, Shot, and Ammunition, as could be poſſibly got and provided, for which we can produce a Letter of 20 *June* 1642. under his own hand to Sir *John Heydon* Lievtenant of the Ordnance to convey it ſecretly in Ballaſt of Ships, and required Subſcriptions for Plate, Horſes and Arms; and had alſo raiſed ſuch Guards of Horſe and Foot about him, that by them he did not only abuſe our Committees ſent unto him, beat our publick Officers and Meſſengers, protect notorious Papiſts, Traytors or Felons, ſuch as *Beckwith*, and other from *Poſſe Commitatus*, but alſo with thoſe Guards, Cannons and Arms from beyond Sea, did attempt to force *Hull* in an Hoſtile manner, and that within few dayes after that ſolemn Proteſtation at *York*.

It was not long before he proclaimed us Rebels and Traitors, ſetting up his Standard againſt the Parliament, which never any King of *England* did before himſelf.

Nor did ever any but King *Charles* ſet up a mock Parliament at *Oxford*, or any other place, to oppoſe and proteſt againſt the Parliament of *England*, which himſelf and both Houſes had continued by Act of Parliament.

And when he had made thoſe pretended Members at *Oxford* to falſifie their faith and truſt they owed to this Kingdome, finding that by them he could not carry on his pernicious deſigns, he derided their meeting in a letter to the Queen, and called them a mungrel Parliament, whereby his own party may perceive what reward they muſt expect when they have done their utmoſt to ſhipwrack their faith and conſcience to his will and Tyranny

ny, and for calling in of foreign Forces, beſides that which we have ſaid already, it is very well known by his own Letters taken at *Naſeby*, and the Lord *Digbies* Cabinet, what negotiations he hath long had in all States round about us; we have alſo remaining with us an authentick Copy of his Commiſſion for calling over ten thouſand of the Iriſh Rebels to ſubdue this Parliament, the diſloyal and Rebellious City of *London* (as he calleth it) and for this purpoſe (expreſly againſt an Act of Parliament) he made a pacification firſt, and ſince a Peace with thoſe moſt cruel bloody Rebels, on ſuch odious, ſhameſull, and unworthy conditions, that himſelf bluſhed to own or impart them to his own Lievtenant the Earl of *Ormond*, but a private Commiſſion was made to the Lord *Herbert* (called Earl of *Glamorgan*) commanding him to manage it with all poſſible ſecreſie.

And for letting us ſee this ſecret Commiſſion (which was taken at *Sligo*) the ſaid Lord did endure a ſpecious confinement.

Neither do we by this time wonder he ſhould forget his vows and Proteſtations, that he would never conſent (upon whatſoever pretence) to a toleration of the Popiſh profeſſion, or abolition of the Laws then in force againſt Recuſants, with moſt ſolemn imprecations, that God would ſo deal with him and his, as he continued in ſuch profeſſions, and inviolably kept thoſe Proteſtations, notwithſtanding about the very ſame time, it appears by Letters under his own hand to the Queen and the Earl of *Ormond*, that he would conſent to the taking away all penal Laws againſt Papiſts both in *England* and *Ireland*.

And alſo we had ſufficient notice and proofs of moſt of theſe things before, notwithſtanding all his breach of truſt with the Proteſtants in *France*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and this Kingdome, which (beſides all other oppreſſions by uniuſt Prerogative) he hath ſo oft endeavoured to enſlave by *Germane*, *Spaniſh*, *French*, *Lourain*, *Iriſh*, *Daniſh*, and other foreign Forces; yet ſo really we ſought his own as well as the Kingdoms peace and happineſſe, that after ſo many denyals we made this laſt application ſo juſt and honorable, that we cannot but now conclude, he hath wholly forgotten not only his duty to the Kingdom, but alſo, the care and reſpect he owes to himſelf and his own family.

Theſe are ſome few of the many Reaſons why we cannot repoſe any more truſt in him, and have made thoſe former reſolutions; yet we ſhall uſe our utmoſt endeavours to ſettle the preſent Government as may beſt ſtand with the peace and happineſſe of this Kingdome.

FINIS.

Die Veneris, xi. Februarii, 1647.

ORdered by the Commons Assembled in Parliament, that a competent number of this Declaration be printed for the Service of the House; And the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses, and Barons of the Cinque-Ports that serve for the several Counties, Cities, Burroughs, and Ports, are required to send Copies thereof, to be published and dispersed in the several and respective places for which they serve.

H. Elsynge Cler. Parl. Dom. Com.